

## TAKAHIRA TALKS FOR PEACE

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR GUEST OF THE LOTOS CLUB.

Recalls His Fishing in the Harlem River to Point a Moral in Diplomacy—Declaration of Policy by the Two Governments Only Reaffirms Friendship.

The Japanese Ambassador, Baron Kogo Takahira, to whom the Lotos Club gave a complimentary dinner last night, laid much of the blame for the tension which existed between his Government and ours some time ago on public misconception of the meaning of diplomacy. The press was somewhat at fault, said Ambassador Takahira, in reflecting so sharply a mistaken idea of events, but he did not desire to criticize the press, he added.

The Ambassador's address expressed the utmost friendliness for America and Americans and voiced what Ambassador Takahira believed to be the general feeling of the Japanese people, that the United States is the best friend of Japan among the nations. Members of the club, President Frank R. Lawrence, Rear Admiral Caspar F. Goodrich, Seth Low, the Rev. Dr. Robert S. MacArthur and others, congratulated the Ambassador on the work he has been doing, with particular reference to the understanding between Japan and the United States.

The dinner, one of the last of the larger affairs in the present home of the Lotos Club, was attended by about 300 of the members of the club and their guests. The president of the club, Frank R. Lawrence, presided, seated under an archway which was draped with the Japanese and American flags. At his right was the guest of honor. Others at the table were the Japanese Consul-General, Seth Low, Rabbi Wise, Andrew Carnegie, Martin W. Littleton, Hamilton Holt, James M. Beck, John S. Wise, Admiral Goodrich, Melville E. Stone and the Rev. Dr. MacArthur. At other tables were Alexander C. Humphreys, Charles W. Price, Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke, Dr. W. W. Walker, John Elderkin, John F. O'Rourke, David H. Taylor, John Hawkesworth, Richard C. Veit, J. H. Flager, Samuel Untermyer, George H. Story, Isaac N. Seligman, Senator Chauncey M. Depew and E. S. Newbold.

President Lawrence, in introducing Ambassador Takahira, said that we must admire Japan for her triumphs of peace rather than war. Her remarkable achievements during the progress of the Russian war proved, said Mr. Lawrence, that lives had been thrown away on other recent wars. That series of achievements had been justly called, he thought, the real triumph of Japan.

"We cannot meet without recalling with warm gratitude her splendid hospitality toward the American navy," said Mr. Lawrence. Then he proposed a rising toast to the Ambassador. Mr. Takahira, speaking very slowly and distinctly, said that Japan's first began with the visit of Commodore Perry half a century ago, and that Japan has always wanted to repay the American nation a great debt of gratitude. The Japanese believe that the United States is their best friend among the nations, he said, amid cheering, and Japan has looked first to the United States for sympathy and guidance.

"All you have done hitherto will never be forgotten," said the Ambassador, smiling to the right and left.

He apologized for reading a set speech but thought that he could make swifter progress that way. He said: "When I lived in this city many years ago and used to go to the Harlem River for fishing and I saw that the boatman always rowed hard when the tide was against him. In the same way I now see that a diplomat must much when his affairs are not in good shape. But as things are now between the United States and Japan there is nothing to warrant much speech making. I fully believe I am not mistaken when I say that our relations are in the best possible condition. I think we may say that there is now nothing more to be desired in the relations of our two countries."

But if the past is to serve as a lesson for the future it would be well to consider what we have had to experience for these few years. In these years we have known we had such a terrible time in regard to our relations as we could never have anticipated. No doubt there were some undesirable incidents occurring between some people of the two countries, but they were only local affairs and in no way to be regarded as menacing to our traditional friendship. But too much importance was given to them in some quarters and even a war clamor was allowed to be raised in spite of the sincere good will continually existing between the two Governments. But thanks to the sincerity of the friendship existing all the time between the two Governments no serious consequences were allowed to occur that might otherwise follow such circumstances.

I took the opportunity at a dinner given in my honor on my arrival here some months ago to declare that there is no art in our game of diplomacy. In our international transactions I can most firmly repeat the same assertion and add that there is no such thing as diplomacy as popularly defined. The declaration of the two Governments recently made by the United States and Japan in regard to their respective policy in China and the Pacific is a good example. It is simply a reaffirmation of what was understood between them years ago and there is practically nothing which was not hitherto declared between them. It is like a transaction between trusted friends. It requires no formality to legalize the agreement.

Still, when such declaration was made between the Governments of great moral standing like those of the United States and Japan it will undoubtedly have an important effect, which I think is already beginning to be felt in many ways, and it is my sincere desire that the peoples of each country will have the same mind as their own Government in trusting that of the other, and in doing so I am convinced their rights will be fully protected and their interests largely advanced to the mutual benefit of the two countries.

Gentlemen, I thank you for the attention. I wish you happiness and prosperity. Rear Admiral Goodrich thought that the Japanese haven't a monopoly of the virtues. The Admiral was quite ready to believe that we had many failings, most of which were purely human and natural, but he had the utmost longing for folk who disliked a people merely on account of lack of understanding of that people.

"The safest antidote for lack of understanding," said Admiral Goodrich, "is travel. The more we come to know Japan the more friendly we will be toward her. We shall be rivals in the peaceful arts, that is bound to be, but let us play the game openly, fairly and honorably, abiding by the decision of the umpire." [Applause.]

Seth Low, who complimented the Ambassador warmly, thought that the battle fleet had turned out to be an army of peace. He was convinced that the understanding recently arrived at between Elihu Root for this Government and Baron Takahira for Japan would grow stronger with the years.

The Japanese Consul-General, Mr. Midzuno, had a word or two about the difference between getting married in his country and here. "You love and marry," said Mr. Midzuno. "We marry and love." He hoped that Japan would become re-

nowned no less in peace than in war, and he agreed with Admiral Goodrich that a greater understanding of each other's customs and ways will go far toward bringing about a more perfect friendship.

Rabbi Wise suggested that the Japanese and American peoples unite to nominate Elihu Root and Baron Takahira for the next award of the Nobel peace prize.

"These," said he, "have greatly served the cause of world peace, not by drawing the two nations into a formal and express alliance but by arranging a gentlemen's agreement which is ample as long as both nations behave like gentlemen."

"The Japanese-American agreement means moral preparedness in both lands for true and lasting peace. Moral preparedness for war means war inevitable; moral preparedness for peace makes war impossible. The agreement is a triumph over the most terrible foe of peace, prejudice. It is a recognition of the truth that the souls and deeds of men have no color, that colorphobia is rebellion against God. It is a renewal of the Golden Rule, or American diplomacy revitalized by that American gentleman, John Hay laid the foundations. Elihu Root has reared the superstructure of the new diplomacy. The Hay-Root diplomacy implies that the nation too great to offend the least, too mighty to be unjust to the weakest, too lofty to be ungenerous to the lowliest."

Dr. MacArthur, John S. Wise and others made brief addresses.

## OUTCASTS OF DOVER FLATS.

135 Tenants Barred Out Because Mezzanine Stair Landings Fell In.

The collapse of four mezzanine landings in the Dover flats, 2, 4, 6 and 8 Dover street, left forty families, numbering 135 persons, without homes from 6 o'clock last night until early this morning. One hundred of the tenants were women and children, and most of these the firemen had to carry to the street, down ladders or fire escapes. Two persons were slightly injured.

The Dover flats are owned by the Richard K. Fox estate and are also known as Fox's flats. The six story building, situated at the corner of Dover street, where the Police Gazette is published, the mezzanine landings are marble slabs about eight feet long and four feet wide. The slabs which formed the landing between the fourth and fifth floors gave way and carried the third, second and first mezzanine landings with it.

Two persons who didn't discover in time the cause of the crash they had heard stepped into the holes left by the landings and fell to a heap of broken marble on the ground floor. They were Timothy F. Collins, a colored man of 15 Cherry street, and Mrs. Mollie Power, a widow. They were taken to hospitals with cuts and sprains.

The firemen of Truck 1 got very tired carrying the flats out. Those on the two upper floors were taken across roofs to the Fox Building. Building Inspector Sweeney ordered the Dover flats vacated until the landings were replaced, but he made exceptions in the cases of two children recovering from scarlet fever and an old woman who is blind. The other exits, most of them, sat around in the cold and waited.

Inspector Sweeney said the landings appeared to have been sufficiently supported, but he could not account for the accident unless the landing between the fourth and fifth floors was overweighted or affected by vibration from the Brooklyn bridge which crossed the building faces. One of the tenants said there was a crack in the landing that fell first.

## HANGS HERSELF IN BELLEVUE.

Melancholia Patient Makes Use of Bedpost and Her Hair Ribbon.

Minnie Marcus, wife of Nathan Marcus, a clothier at 149 Madison street, who was admitted to Bellevue suffering from melancholia yesterday afternoon, committed suicide last night by hanging herself to her bed by a hair ribbon.

According to her husband the woman had been acting strangely for three months. Dr. H. C. Adams admitted her yesterday and had her sent to the women's insane ward for observation. At night she was placed in a private room. She apparently went to bed and was thought to be asleep when visited by nurses on their rounds.

About 11:45 o'clock Dr. Gregory heard a gurgling sound in her room and hurried in to see what caused it. Mrs. Marcus had the hair ribbon tied to a bedpost and an end about her neck. She was alive when found. Three doctors worked over her, but she died in ten minutes.

## DIED TO SAVE HIS DOG.

Seven-Year-Old Boy Struck by a Train and Fatally Injured.

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 19.—While saving the life of his pet dog, which was in danger of being ground beneath the wheels of the Danbury Express, seven-year-old Daniel Marshall, son of Robert Marshall of 127 New Park avenue, was himself struck by the engine pilot this forenoon. He died from his injuries a few hours later at St. Francis's Hospital. With several companions and his dog Danny was playing near the tracks in Parkville, near his home, when he heard the train and saw that his dog was on the tracks. With no thought of his own danger and unheeding the warning cries of his friends the boy dashed to save the dog. The dog, however, alarmed at the sight of the engine bearing down jumped nimbly out of the danger, but Danny was hit.

The President the Guest of the Vice-President at Dinner.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The President and Mrs. Roosevelt were the guests for whom the Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks entertained at dinner this evening in their K street home. This was the first large dinner which these distinguished guests had given since they were in the list of dinners which the President and his wife will attend.

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TENEMENT FOLKS FLARE UP

THE JANITRESS FOUND CHALK MARKS ON THE WALL.

Fathers of Accused Children Fight With Bullets, Boy Shoots One of Them With Blank Cartridge, Mother Throws Lamp at Policemen—Five Arrests.

Mrs. Mary Cunningham, janitress of the five story tenement house at 216 East Forty-seventh street, found the hall walls covered with pencil marks the other day. She suspected Arthur Kettler, the ten-year-old son of Robert Kettler, a driver, and the four children of August Wagner, a laborer. His children are Louis, 13 years old; Harry, 7; Emil, 5, and Edna, 3 years old.

Each father immediately denied that his children had anything to do with the marks and told Mrs. Cunningham to take the matter up with the father of the other children. The janitress didn't fail to tell each father what the other one thought of him.

Kettler and Wagner met yesterday in the second floor hall room, abused each other with their tongues and finally went to work with their fists. One of them plucked a baluster from the rail and the other followed suit, in which operation the balustrade was wrecked. They whacked each other over the head until Wagner, who is the elder man, went down.

Louis Wagner ran into the Wagner flat when he saw his father go down and came running out with a revolver. Just as the father got to his feet for another round with Kettler's young Louis shot the revolver in Kettler's face and fired twice. The gun was loaded with blank cartridges, so Kettler's only injury was from powder burns.

A riot call had been sent to Police Headquarters and Capt. Lantry of the East Fifty-first street station started on the run with the reserves. Before he got there Policeman Lewis had reached the house from a nearby post. He found the hallway spattered with blood and the fighters half conscious on the floor. Some one told Lewis that the boy who shot had run into the Wagner apartment, so Lewis went there to find him.

Just as Lewis opened the door Mrs. Wagner picked up a light lamp and threw it at his head. The lamp missed Lewis and crashed against the wall, spilling burning kerosene over the floor. Lewis knocked the woman down with a blow on the mouth with the back of his hand and then threw his coat over the lamp and the oil and stamped on it. Figuring that the boy probably was hiding under a bed Lewis went into the bedroom and found him there. The boy snapped the revolver in the policeman's face but the gun missed fire.

Just as Lewis yanked the boy out from under the bed Capt. Lantry and the reserves got there with a patrol wagon and an ambulance. He found that the janitress had taken part in the hallway fight and ordered her to get into the patrol wagon, after which he bundled in Kettler and the entire Wagner family.

Dr. Kane of Flower Hospital went along to the station house to dress the wounds of Kettler and Wagner. The job took him an hour and a half. The men were charged with assault, and Mrs. Wagner with assaulting a policeman. A complaint of disorderly conduct was made against Mrs. Cunningham, and Louis Wagner was sent to the Children's society charged with felonious assault. Their parents being locked up the Wagner children also were consigned to the care of the Gerry society.

WON'T SIT ON GHOST JURY. Dr. Funk Sends Back \$100 Check—Suggests That \$5,000 Cash Might Work.

Dr. Isaac K. Funk declines to try to produce a ghost to oblige the doubters of the Metropolitan Psychological Society. He sent back yesterday President J. L. Kellogg's check for \$100 with a letter saying: "If you have read my books on this subject you know exactly what I stand—that there are many points in favor of the spiritualistic hypothesis that are unproved—so a fair experiment will be watched by me, or any intelligent person, with interest. If you would give a ghost 'a ghost of a chance' or their medium, or a skeptic, why not get yourselves in shape to publish something like the following: 'We have deposited this date in the Trust Company, New York, \$5,000 cash to be paid to a psychic who the following committee of disinterested prominent men—shall say that he has complied with the conditions herein named. (Here state conditions). If this should be published widely I trust it will bring some acceptance. The conditions should be simple, explicit, reasonable, conclusive, protecting the rights of both sides. I can take no part whatever in the affair, having served my time in such investigations. This work I shall leave to younger and I trust more capable men.' I. K. FUNK."

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## Reception to Admiral Evans.

New York will celebrate the return of Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans from his cruise around the Horn with the Atlantic fleet by a public reception in Carnegie Hall on January 8. It will be remembered that Admiral Evans was taken ill after the fleet entered Pacific waters and was compelled to leave his ship at San Francisco for treatment. He is now almost entirely recovered and will make his first public appearance at the reception which the Navy League is giving in his honor.

The president of the Navy League, Gen. Horace Porter, will preside. Admiral Evans will make his first appearance as a lecturer on the occasion and tell his own story of the cruise from Hampton Roads to San Francisco.

William McAdoo is vice-president and among its honorary vice-presidents are J. Pierpont Morgan and Hon. John D. Long.



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